

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION 5 77 WEST JACKSON BOULEVARD CHICAGO, IL 60604-3590

APR 2 5 2014

REPLY TO THE ATTENTION OF: WW-161

Katrina Kessler, Section Manager Environmental Analysis and Outcomes Division Minnesota Pollution Control Agency 520 Lafayette Road North St. Paul, Minnesota 55155-4194

Dear Ms. Kessler:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency would like to thank the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) for its April 15, 2014 submittal of Minnesota's 2014 303(d)/305(b) package. EPA acknowledges MPCA's efforts toward finalizing the 2014 303(d) impaired waters list.

As discussed on MPCA's webpage (<a href="http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-types-and-programs/minnesotas-impaired-waters-and-tmdls/impaired-waters-list.html">http://www.pca.state.mn.us/index.php/water/water-types-and-programs/minnesotas-impaired-waters-and-tmdls/impaired-waters-list.html</a>), and as communicated to EPA, MPCA is committed to assessing waters with respect to its sulfate standard that protects water used for production of wild rice, and plans to provide the results of the wild rice sulfate standard assessments and any associated listings and public notice information to EPA in an addendum to the 2014 303(d) Impaired Water List. These efforts are ongoing.

EPA will initiate review of the documents provided. In light of the above, however, EPA considers the April 15, 2014 submittal to be a partial 303(d) submittal. EPA will complete its review of Minnesota's 303(d) list pursuant to 40 CFR 130.7(d)(2) upon submittal of the wild rice addendum.

If you or your staff have any questions, please contact Mr. Paul Proto, at 312-353-8657, or <a href="mailto:proto.paul@epa.gov">proto.paul@epa.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

Peter Swenson

Chief, Watersheds and Wetlands Branch

Peter Swenson

## Enclosure

cc: Katrina Kessler, MPCA

Miranda Nichols, MPCA Celine Lyman, MPCA

bcc: Matthew Gluckman, EPA R5, WWB

Paul Proto, EPA R5, WWB

Sabrina Argentieri, EPA R5, ORC Barbara Wester, EPA R5, ORC